

LGLAIM:

1. A method of preventing graft rejection comprising administering an effective amount of an inhibitor of Fgl2 to an animal in need thereof

2. A method of preventing or treating fetal loss comprising administering an effective amount of an inhibitor of Fgl2 to an animal in need thereof.

3. A method according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said inhibitor is an antibody that binds to Fgl2.

4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody that binds to a human Fgl2 having the amino acid sequence as shown in Figure 5.

5. A method according to claim 4 wherein the antibody binds an epitope of human Fgl2 comprising the amino acids at positions 364-378 (DRYP5GNCGLYYSSG) in Figure 5.

6. A method for diagnosing or monitoring graft rejection in an animal comprising detecting a Fgl2 protein or a Fgl2 nucleic acid in a biological sample from the animal.

7. A method for diagnosing or monitoring fetal loss in an animal comprising detecting a Fgl2 protein or a Fgl2 nucleic acid in a biological sample from the animal.

8. A method according to claim 6 or 7 comprising detecting (a) a nucleic acid molecule having a sequence shown in Figure 2 or SEQ.ID.NO.:1 or 3, or a fragment thereof, or (b) a protein having an amino acid sequence as shown in Figure 5 or SEQ.ID.NO.:2 or 4, or a fragment thereof.

9. A method for detecting a Fgl2 protein according to claim 8 comprising contacting the sample with an antibody that binds to Fgl2 which is capable of being detected after it becomes bound to the Fgl2 in the sample.

10. A method for detecting a nucleic acid molecule encoding Fgl2 according to claim 8 comprising contacting the sample with a nucleotide probe capable of hybridizing with the nucleic acid molecule to form a hybridization product, under conditions which

permit the formation of the hybridization product, and assaying for the hybridization product.

11. A method according to claim 10 further comprising treating the sample with primers which are capable of amplifying the nucleic acid molecule in a polymerase chain reaction to form amplified sequences under conditions which permit the formation of amplified sequences, and assaying for amplified sequences.

12. A method of inducing immune coagulation comprising administering a nucleic acid sequence encoding Fgl2 or an Fgl2 protein to an animal in need thereof.

13. A method according to claim 12 comprising administering (a) a nucleic acid molecule having a sequence shown in Figure 2 or 3 or SEQ.ID.NO.:1 or 3 or (b) a protein having a sequence shown in Figure 5 or SEQ.ID.NO.:2 or 4.

14. A composition for use in inhibiting graft rejection in an animal comprising (a) an antibody specific for a Fgl2 protein or (b) an antisense oligonucleotide to Fgl2.

15. A composition for use in inhibiting fetal loss in an animal comprising (a) an antibody specific for a Fgl2 protein or (b) an antisense oligonucleotide to Fgl2.

16. A method for preventing graft rejection in an animal comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition as claimed in claim 14.

17. A method for preventing or treating fetal loss in an animal comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition as claimed in claim 15.

18. A vaccine for preventing graft rejection comprising an effective amount of an Fgl2 protein or peptide in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

19. A vaccine for preventing fetal loss comprising an effective amount of an Fgl2 protein or peptide in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

20. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising (a) the sequence shown in Figure 8, where T can also be U; (b) nucleic acid sequences which have substantial sequence identity with (a); and (c) a fragment of (a) or (b).

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21 An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising (a) the sequence shown in Figure 4, where T can also be U; (b) nucleic acid sequences which have substantial sequence identity with (a); and (c) a fragment of (a) or (b).

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